

1 What is claimed is:

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- 3 1. An automated data entry method comprising:
- 4 entering a user information at a first location;
- 5 searching a storage medium at said first location to determine an identity of a user
- 6 based on the entered information;
- 7 accessing a storage medium at a second location upon not being able to identify a
- 8 user by searching the storage medium at said first location, said medium at the second
- 9 location containing information for a plurality of users;
- 10 searching the storage medium at the second location to determine an identity of
- 11 said user based on the entered information; and
- 12 retrieving additional information pertaining to the user from the storage medium at
- 13 the first or second locations based on the determined identity.
- 14
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
- 16 establishing communication from the first location to the second location by a
- 17 programmable software application at the first location.
- 18
- 19 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said software application is a browser plug-in
- 20 module.
- 21
- 22 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second locations are connected to a
- 23 network.
- 24
- 25 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the network is the Internet.
- 26
- 27 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second locations are websites.
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- 29 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said first website is associated with a vendor.
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1 **8.** The method of claim 1 wherein the retrieved additional information is presented to
2 the user for verifying accuracy of said information.

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4 **9.** The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:
5 verifying an accuracy of said retrieved additional information,
6 appending the additional information to the entered user information;
7 transmitting said entered information and said appended additional information;
8 and
9 processing said transmitted information to complete a transaction.

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11 **10.** The method of claim 9 wherein the user selects portions of the additional
12 information for transmission.

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14 **11.** The method of claim 2 wherein the application is further programmable to search a
15 database associated with the first location.

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17 **12.** A system comprising:
18 a first website corresponding to a vendor of products or services, said first website
19 having a storage medium containing information corresponding to a plurality of
20 individuals;
21 a second website having a storage medium containing information corresponding
22 to a plurality of individuals;
23 a network connecting said websites; and
24 a user station connected to the network, the first website comprising a software
25 application being programmable to communicate with the second website and to search
26 and to retrieve information from the storage medium at the first and second websites in
27 response to information entered through a user interface of the user station.

28
29 **13.** The system of claim 12 wherein the network is the Internet.
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1 **14.** The system of claim 12, wherein said first website presents a plurality of products
2 or services offered by a vendor.
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4 **15.** The system of claim 14, wherein said first website includes links to additional
5 information pertaining to said products or services.
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7 **16.** The system of claim 12, wherein said first website facilitates a transaction between
8 the user and the vendor.

9
10 **17.** The system of claim 12, wherein said first website contains information pertaining
11 to a plurality of users.
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13 **18.** The system of claim 12, wherein the user selects at least one product or service for
14 purchase from the vendor.

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16 **19.** The system of claim 18, wherein a user selection is displayed to the user.
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18 **20.** The system of claim 19, wherein the user is prompted to enter information for
19 shipping and billing purposes.